



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** Friday, April 15, 2005 -- 05-012

**District:** District 2 - Redding

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Caltrans to Present Adopt-A-Highway Awards

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Adopt-A-Highway Program will honor two volunteer groups with "Golden Hardhat" awards for outstanding efforts in keeping our local state highways clean. Mr. Glenn Storms from Trinity County and the Big Valley Lions Club from Lassen County will be honored as the Adopt-A-Highway Volunteers of the Year.

Mr. Storms has been involved in the Adopt-A-Highway program for 14 years and is the oldest volunteer in District 2 at the age of 85. Most often working alone, Storms keeps an Adopt-A-Highway sight on State Route 299 in Trinity County near Junction City clean and tidy. "He sometimes enlists the help of a friend, but is most often a solo act and does a great job," said Tim Croom, leadworker for the Weaverville Maintenance Station. Mr. Storms will be honored on April 21, 2005 at a 2 p.m. ceremony at the Caltrans Weaverville Maintenance Station, 203 Memorial Drive.

In Lassen County, the Big Valley Lions Club has been cleaning up a portion of State Route 299 near Adin for more than 12 years. "This group does a great job. They are very prideful of their area and are always timely in their litter removal efforts," said Steve Best, Caltrans Maintenance Supervisor in Adin. "When Caltrans mows and exposes more litter, they will get it picked up even if it is above and beyond their regular schedule. They take a lot of pride in their town and it shows," added Best. The group will be honored on April 29, 2005 at a 2 p.m. ceremony at the Caltrans Maintenance Station in Adin, State Route 299 E.

In District 2 there are 346 adoption groups, which do litter pick up, wildflower plantings, vegetation control, tree plantings and clean Park-N-Ride areas. These groups take care of more than 1250 miles of State roadway in the eight counties within District 2. There are currently 168 sites available for adoption in the district.

Caltrans launched the Adopt-A-Highway Program in October of 1989 and today there are more than 4,200 adoptions statewide, representing 40,000 participants, with waiting lists for prime locations. Of those adoptions, 3,950 are litter removal groups, which clean litter from approximately 7,850 miles of highway, more than half of the State's highway system. Seventy-five percent of the groups are volunteers and 25% are sponsors who hire contractors to perform the work.

For more information on adopting a site, please contact Saedra Wederbrook at 530-225-3277.

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